

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 OMB-01

/053 W

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R 011340Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2085

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT LE

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN SAUDIA ARABIA

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0511

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, BA

SUBJECT : BAHRAINI VISITS

1. GOB HAS ANNOUNCED THAT PRIME MINISTER SHAIKH KHALIFA BIN SULMAN AL-KHALIFA WILL PAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO IRAN IN MAY AND CROWN PRINCE/DEFENSE MINISTER SHAIKH HAMAD BIN ISA AL-KHALIFA WILL VISIT IRAQ COMMENCING MAY 19.

2. COMMENT: THESE ARE FURTHER WELCOME INDICATIONS OF INTENSIFIED INTEREST AMONG GULF STATES IN BREATHING GREATER LIFE INTO CONCEPT OF COOPERATION. THE IRANIAN VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER, WHO WORKING IN CLOSE HARMONY WITH AMIR EXERCISES THE REAL AUTHORITY OF THE REGIME, IS A NOTABLY ENCOURAGING SIGN, INDICATING GOB'S ASSESMENT THAT ARAB-IRANIAN RELATIONS ARE CORDIAL INDEED. LOCAL RUMOR MILL HAS
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IT THAT CROWN PRINCE, SOMETHING OF A FREE-WHEELER AND NOT

AMONG MOST INFLUENTIAL GOVERNMENT FIGURES, MAY HAVE STUMBLED
INTO IRAQI INVITATION WITHOUT HIS ELDERS' FULL BLESSING.
NEVERTHELESS, FACT THAT HE IS VISTING BAGHDAD SUGGESTS GOB
WILLING TO PLAY THE GAME OF WELCOMING IRAQI REGIME INTO THE
FOLD OF GULF COOPERATION, WHILE RETAINING IT RESERVATIONS
ABOUT ULTIMATE IRAQI GOOD FAITH. HIS VISIT ALSO MAY BE MEANS
OF TAKING AMIR, WHO WAS RECENTLY INVITED TO MAKE STATE VISIT
TO IRAQ (MANAMA 0437). OFF THE HOOK.
TWINAM

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NNN

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